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The Colonial Dames of America
Chapter II, Philadelphia
1905-1915

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THE RANDOLPH MANSION.

A Brief Record of the Proceedings of Chapter II from 1905 to 1915

A letter received by our secretary, from the secretary of the Parent Society, Miss Borrowe, stating that the Annual Meeting of the Colonial Dames of America, April 30, 1915, would be the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the inauguration of that Society, has reminded us in Philadelphia that since March 28th, 1905, when we celebrated our Tenth Anniversary as an organized body, ten more years have elapsed, and that some note should be made of the proceedings of our Chapter during that period of time. The President has therefore, at the request of certain members of her board, consented to add to the story of Chapter II given in an address which she delivered as to the first ten years of its existence, from 1905 to 1915.

It appears that at the meeting of our Board of Managers on April 25th, 1905, there was a deal of discussion, and not a little excitement over Philadelphia's claim—that John Paul Jones should be buried in her midst. This resulted in a resolution, seconding the Daughters of the Revolution in their wish that John Paul Jones should be buried in Independence Square. From our present point of view there is reason to be devoutly thankful that in spite of the protest of the Quaker City the interment took place at Annapolis on April 24th, 1906, as you all know. It was attended by quite a large delegation of the Colonial Dames of America in response to an invitation from the then Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Bonaparte, while our Philadelphia Chapter so far relented as to send a wreath of flowers to honor the commemorative services.

On January 6th, 1906, in response to a letter from Mrs. Ira Davenport—Chairman of a Committee on Historical Memorials of the Parent Society—we passed a resolution to restore one of the pews used by the Washington family in Pohick Church, Fairfax County, Virginia, of which George Washington was a vestryman for twenty years. The work was accomplished on December 11th, of the same year. One hundred dollars was expended on it.

A plate was placed on the pew stating that it was the gift of Chapter II of the Colonial Dames of America.

Meanwhile, a letter had been read at a Board Meeting, held March 17th, 1906, from Mrs. Cheesman, then Secretary, speaking of the wish of the Parent Society to take part in the celebration to be held at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1907, as a commemoration of the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the First Settlement in America, in 1607, and asking for suggestions. Someone proposed handsome iron gates, placed at the entrance of the Churchyard in which the Church on Jamestown Island stands, as very appropriate, and a fitting memorial from the Society. Miss Balch, the secretary of Chapter II, was deeply interested in this from the first. She corresponded with Mr. Richard Cadwalader, Mr. Howland Pell, Mrs. William Ruffin Cox, Vice President of the Virginia Association for the Preservation of Antiquities, etc., Mrs. Paul Dana and others. Chapter I, Baltimore, expressed itself as much interested in the work and at the conference held in New York, November 20th, 1906, it was, as you all know, decided that these gates should be erected by the whole Society at a cost of \$2000, and Miss Balch was made Chairman of the entire Committee. Of the sum to be raised for this purpose Chapter II made itself responsible for \$600.

On May 17th, 1906, a letter was received by the President of Chapter II from Mrs. Clapham Murray of Baltimore, enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by Chapter I to try to stay the injury being done by manufacturers to Niagara Falls. They had begun to draw off the water of the great falls to use the power to run machinery in factories for merely commercial purposes. It seemed that a delegation from Chapter I of the C. D. A. had visited the President of the United States to protest against this vandalism, and an Act had already been passed in the House of Representatives to try to prevent it. The President of Chapter II was appointed to represent the feeling of our Chapter in England where she was expecting to pass the Summer, and would try to interest some persons in authority in the English Government of Canada to use their influence in combination with that of America to check this encroachment on the beauty and grandeur of one of the most wonderful works of Nature by a sordid love of gain. She did succeed in having the subject placed in a strong light before Lord Strathcona, Secretary of Colonial Affairs.

We were requested to send a delegation on November 22nd, 1906, to the ceremonies attendant upon the reinterment at Christ Church of James Wilson, one of the greatest leaders in the Constitutional Convention, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and the first Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. The President of Chapter II and four other members were the representation appointed, and had the opportunity of hearing a wonderfully interesting address delivered by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, and also addresses on the famous jurist, by Alton B. Parker, William Draper Lewis, Hampton L. Carson and others. Perhaps it may be well here to recall that the remains of this great Patriot had been brought in state from Edenton, North Carolina, where they had lain for more than a century, since his death in 1798, and that Dr. Mitchell was the author of the movement to bring the body of James Wilson home to Philadelphia, and place it beside that of his wife close to the south wall of the church which has been called "the Westminster Abbey of America."

On Thursday, May 18, 1907, a conference of the whole Society was held in Philadelphia at the Randolph Mansion in Fairmount Park. Dr. McClellan was requested after the conference to deliver a paper which he had written on the life of the famous Dr. Physick who had owned the House, and whose daughter's marriage with Dr. Randolph had taken it into the Randolph family. Later, Mrs. Frederick Thurston Mason gave a tea party, also at Randolph mansion, to the members of the Society who were present. The visiting Dames seemed greatly to admire our beautiful old Colonial House.

On May 9th of the same year we went to Jamestown, Va., to be present at the presentation from the Colonial Dames of America of the finely wrought iron gates, erected by them as a memorial. We were much pleased by the courtesy of Admiral Evans who placed the "Yorktown," a government vessel, at our disposal for the trip from Old Point Comfort to Jamestown Island. It was a beautiful afternoon and nothing interfered with the dignity and interest of the simple little scene, when Mrs. Gerard, as President of the Society handed the key of the gates to Miss Balch, Chairman of the Committee, after a short and eloquent address, and Miss Balch responding with a few appropriate words, passed

it on to the representative of the Society for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

It seems peculiarly pathetic that only six months later the first meeting of our Board of Chapter II, after the summer vacation, should have been one called specially to take action on the death of Mrs. Gerard, in whose loss to the whole Society we felt a very strong sympathy.

At a meeting called on Friday, January 3, 1908, a plan was placed before the Board for dividing Chapter II into three committees to study Colonial Art and Architecture, Customs of Society, Politics, Religious Observances, and Cookery. The three committees were carefully chosen for congeniality in age and associations. They consisted each of from twenty-four to thirty members, and the subjects suggested were divided between them with an intention on the part of those making the division to be impartial.

If the interest created in these subjects cannot be said to have been proportionate to our hopes and expectations it at least found admirable expression in two papers which were read by Mrs. Richard A. Gilpin and Mrs. Horace Binney Hare at the house of the President, on Literature in Colonial Times, and were listened to with much pleasure; while in December of the same year Mrs. George Woolsey Hodge on the invitation of Mrs. Bradbury Bedell gave a valuable treatise much appreciated by the Chapter on "The Establishment of the Church in America."

The members of the committee on Colonial Customs had also a number of meetings, and their conferences and papers led to some discussions which were both amusing and instructive. On the whole the President, who originated the plan, is glad to record that it was not unsuccessful, being at least a brave effort in what seemed the right direction.

After the Annual Meeting held at the Randolph Mansion on April 27th 1909, a very pleasant tea was given by Mrs. John Struthers and Mrs. Francis T. Chambers.

Chapter II sent delegates to the Hudson Fulton Celebration, on September 25, 1909, and the President wrote a little account of it, which she read before her Chapter at the Annual Meeting of the following year. This paper is appended. Miss Balch also gave a verbal account of an interesting collection of Fulton relics

on Exhibition at the time at the New York Historical Society.

In May, 1910, a letter was received by our Secretary from Mr. Albert Cook Myers who was engaged in the publication of the complete works of William Penn, the great founder of Pennsylvania, and it was decided that Chapter II would be glad to further this important undertaking by contributing \$100 towards the publication.

On the 15th, 16th, and 17th of May, 1911, there was a conference held in Philadelphia, under the auspices of Mayor Reyburn, called the Third National Conference in City Planning, to which a number of architects were invited from other cities, with the object of deciding how to make beautiful our own. Many of the Dames of Chapter II consented to become members of the Women's Committee, and it was decided to give a reception on May 17th to the city's guests at the Randolph Mansion. There were two hundred persons invited, including representatives of all the patriotic societies, as well as those of the city government. One cannot claim that Philadelphia has grown much more beautiful in consequence of this conference, but it may possibly be more alive to its shortcomings, which is always salutary.

The first mention of a memorial work of the Society to be placed at Valley Forge was made by Mrs. Edward King and was brought before our Board on January 17th, 1912. The Board meeting was followed by one of the Chapter (on February 1st) at which it was voted to send a hundred dollars from our Treasury to New York towards the erection of the very beautiful Archway Bay and open air pulpit that had been decided upon in the Cloister of the Colonies of the Memorial Chapel, to which a subscription of fifty dollars was added by the President. It was also decided that later the Chapter should undertake independently to collect subscriptions towards the inner doors needed in the Chapel. This was done through a committee, of which Miss Balch was chairman. One of the last acts of her life was a request to be allowed to draw \$60, surplus from contributions of our Philadelphia Dames towards the Jamestown gates, that had been put in the savings fund to add to \$350 that had been subscribed for this purpose and to which she added forty dollars from her own purse to make up the four hundred and fifty required.

A committee was appointed on April 4th, to arrange for the

proper reception and entertainment of the Dames from New York, Baltimore and Washington who wished to visit Valley Forge on May 14th, the chairman of which, Mrs. Archibald Barklie, invited all these guests and also the members of Chapter II to lunch with her at her beautiful country seat near Philadelphia, while the Board made it its business to see that all the visiting Dames were met on the arrival of their trains, and conveyed to and from Valley Forge, after the luncheon, with comfort. Those who were present will recall that this was successfully accomplished.

Chapter II voted on April 17th, 1912, formally to change the day of its Annual Meeting from April 23rd to May 8th, which has continued to be the date fixed for this ceremony.

On October 24th, 1912, a special meeting was held to take action on the death of Mrs. Francis T. Chambers, a most capable, judicious and warmly interested member of our Board, always ready to postpone or adapt her own personal affairs to the needs of the society, the objects of which she held warmly at heart. Resolutions were passed at the same time on the death of Mrs. Joseph Drexel, one of the oldest and most loyal members of the Chapter, whose cordial support and great generosity we had reason to remember with deep gratitude.

Not long after Christmas, 1912, Mrs. George Mason Chichester gave an evening entertainment especially to our Dames, requesting that we would all favor her by coming in Colonial dress with powdered hair. In the spacious rooms of her charming old fashioned house in Pine Street, this made a very pretty scene.

On Wednesday May 21, 1913, the dedication of the door presented by Chapter II took place at Valley Forge, on which occasion Mrs. Thomas Balch gave a very pleasant tea party to all of the Chapter. On Tuesday, June 3rd, the Archway Bay was dedicated under the auspices of the Parent Society, also at Valley Forge. Very sad changes came to many of us after this.

On June 30th, 1913, a special meeting was called to pass resolutions on the death of our valued secretary Miss Balch, which you have all heard read. Her loss was irreparable and a great blow to our Chapter.

Miss S. Elizabeth Gilpin, assistant secretary, was appointed temporarily to fill this vacancy and later elected to the position of secretary.

At a meeting of the Board, December 11th, 1913, a letter was read from Miss Carmalt, received towards the end of November, asking Chapter II if it could send delegates to a convention to decide on the most fitting celebration of One Hundred years of peace between English speaking nations, to be held at Richmond, Va., in the early days of December. The President appointed Miss Gilpin and Miss Keim delegates to the convention. Miss Gilpin read her report and a resolution was passed and sent to New York in time for the Board meeting of the Parent Society on December 12th, that the suggestion which most appealed to Chapter II, as a fitting commemoration, was that of the restoration of the principal room in Sulgrave Manor, the first home of the Washingtons in England. At the request and with the approval of the Parent Society, Mrs. McClellan wrote a letter later to Mr. John A. Stewart, Chairman of the American Committee on the Peace Celebration, offering to do this work, and received a very gracious letter of acceptance. Mrs. Herbert Washington was appointed chairman of a Committee of the whole Society still later, and Mrs. McClellan accepted her invitation to act with her, but the crash of the warring nations that occurred in August of that year temporarily drowned the small voice of the spirit that pleads for love and peace, and this celebration has been postponed until a happier time.

The resignation, which we had accepted with the deepest regret, of our faithful treasurer for eleven years, Mrs. Charles B. Penrose, went into effect at our Annual Meeting of May 8th, 1914, and Mrs. William White McCall was elected as treasurer in her place.

At a board meeting on March 24th, 1914, resolutions of sympathy were sent to the Parent Society on the death of Miss J. J. Boudinot, whose charm, whose sweetness, whose energy and literary research, which led to the publication by our Society of "The Letters to Washington," and whose inspiring presence as one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society we all felt that we should keenly miss. We also passed resolutions on the death of Miss Anna P. Stevenson, a much loved member of our Chapter.

At a meeting on November 10th, 1914, the formation of the Junior Auxiliary Society in New York, on April 30th of the same year, was discussed, and it was decided that Chapter II would

also form a Junior Auxiliary. A meeting of the Chapter was agreed upon for the first Thursday in December to arrange this and to decide whether we could continue to give a hundred dollars a year towards the care and preservation of Christ Church graveyard.

The meeting of the Chapter took place at the time appointed and a Junior auxiliary was agreed to be formed, of which the President was Mrs. William Ellis Scull, the Secretary Miss Esther B. Hare, and the Treasurer Miss Helen Von A. Struthers. There was an organizing committee elected to assist these officers and it was agreed that the Chapter should give a luncheon to inaugurate the Auxiliary on Thursday, January 7, at the Acorn Club, which Mrs. Stetinius, Chairman of the Committee of the Junior Auxiliary of the Parent Society, should be invited to attend.

The question of the yearly contribution to Christ Church graveyard was then taken up and it was decided to give fifty instead of a hundred dollars to this object. The President also dwelt at some length on the loss that the whole Society had sustained in the death of Miss Julia Livingstone Delafield, and resolutions of sympathy were directed to be sent to the Board of the Parent Society on the death of its faithful historian.

At the close of the history of Chapter II, up to March 28th, 1905, it was stated that in the spring of 1900 a committee was formed to look for a room or house that could be had as a place of meeting for the whole Society. Its consultations resulted in a decision to request the Park authorities to allow us the use of the Randolph Mansion in East Fairmount Park. The record goes on to say that this request was granted, and our offer accepted, to repaint and repair the house inside and out, and to add a new roof to the main building. It is stated that a committee of which Mrs. John Thompson Spencer was Chairman, took charge of these improvements and that all the repairs were made, and the Mansion finally opened on the first day of May, 1901.

On February 8th, 1902, it is added, that a committee was formed to receive contributions towards the furnishing of the Mansion, of which Mrs. Alexander Biddle acted as Chairman; that on the 15th of April, 1902, the furnishing was appropriately accomplished, through the generosity of various Philadelphia

Dames; and an entertainment was given after the Annual Meeting of this date, to which each member of the Chapter invited three of her friends. There was \$400.00 expended by the Chapter in these repairs and \$563.00 given by its members—in all \$900 to \$1,000. A new roof was put over the main building, and in a few years' time a new roof was added over the kitchens and side-buildings. The house was twice entirely re-painted outside, once inside, and often repaired. It was frequently re-supplied with curtains. There was a complete new floor put in the large drawing room, costing in itself one hundred dollars. This and most of the painting and repairing done after the first expenditure, were later gifts of Officers and Members of the Chapter.

In the course of the fourteen years that we had the pleasurable use of the Randolph Mansion, with all its stately furnishings and elegant proportions, there were entertainments given there often. It was always possible to drive out to this house in the Park of an afternoon and drink a cup of tea, by dropping a line to the caretaker the day before, to insure her being on hand; and in the old days we all greatly enjoyed the English tea cakes made by Mrs. Blooman. The most effective argument used towards surrendering the Randolph Mansion was the expense of keeping it up as well as the value to the Chapter of having more accessible rooms. Those who advocated this plan however, of having more accessible rooms, did not seem to consider it of the first importance that the rooms should be so situated that in the spring of the year when we have our annual meeting it would be very delightful to go to them. When we considered the time and thought and money that had been expended by the Society in the repairing and the restoration of this fine old house we deeply deplored the seeming necessity of giving it up. The fact that in rescuing it as we had done from ruin and decay we were not merely supplying ourselves with a comfortable and convenient place of meeting, but were taking action strictly in keeping with the objects of our society, rendered this all the more regrettable. There were members of the Chapter so keenly alive to these considerations that an offer was made at the last Annual Meeting, to pay the expense of retaining possession of the Randolph Mansion for another year, in addition to taking rooms in the City. Coming as it did at the last moment, it is probable that this generous offer was not fully realised and understood,

for it was rejected by the Board and Chapter, in spite of the caretaker's having repented of her misbehavior, and expressed her contrition very earnestly.

The President of Chapter II was once asked by a prominent member of the Penna. Society of Dames, why we had not tried to get the house that had belonged to Benedict Arnold, in the East Park, instead of the Randolph Mansion. The inquirer seemed greatly surprised when told that we did not particularly fancy the associations of the Arnold House, and appeared to think this a rather sentimental reason, remarking that the other was a larger building. It was no inconsiderable part of the pride felt by our Chapter in the Randolph Mansion that it had never been the home of a traitor, but had first belonged to loyal subjects of King George and later to good Americans who believed in liberty, and the union of the states of the Republic.

Apart from these sentiments, however, the Randolph Mansion, although not so large, was really more beautiful and much more finely situated than the Benedict Arnold House or any other Colonial house in the vicinity of Philadelphia. It stands in an elevated position on the banks of the Schuylkill commanding from its front windows a lovely distant view of the river spanned by one of the old arched bridge-ways, with the City far enough in the background to acquire that misty charm that is so dear to artists. It is approached from the nearer side by a road that passes round a spacious lawn and is seen in summer time across the lawn half hidden by a group of fine old elm trees, presenting in outline and colouring, a combination of stateliness and picturesque effect, touched with the simplicity of Colonial times that is peculiarly attractive.

On nearing the door one enters by simple wooden steps a pleasant hallway on the other side of which opens the dining room which was most simply and appropriately furnished with old mahogany and rush-bottomed chairs. The hall, lighted by two windows, led to the beautiful oval drawing room where all of the meetings of the Colonial Dames were held. The fine yellow over-curtains with gilded cornices, which hung from the ceiling to the floor of the three windows at either end, were in perfect harmony with the pretty old-fashioned covering of the sofa and the seats of the carved-backed chairs, grouped about our dainty rosewood tea table.

In this stately room May 1st, 1901, the Dames of Chapter II first assembled to hear Mr. William Brooke Rawle tell of the life of his ancestors beneath this roof, before the anxious Revolutionary days which came to destroy the comfort and peacefulness of their home. Here again we came on April 16th, 1902 and again on June 3rd, of the same year, on the invitation of Mrs. Camac. Mrs. Savage gave a delightful entertainment at the old Mansion and others were given by Mrs. Dundas Lippincott, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Struthers and Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. McClellan more than once, Mrs. Horace Hare and Mrs. Penn Gaskell Hall, at various times in various years.

If we turned to the left on entering the main hall, we passed through a smaller one which led by an easy stairway to the upper entry from which the bed rooms open, whither we repaired to lay aside our wraps. The large front bed chamber and a smaller one were over the great drawing room. They looked front and back across the river and towards the approach to the house, each with a rounded end. They were furnished by the Chapter as bedroom and dressing room. The fine old four-posted bedstead, with all its stately draperies and its valances, was the generous gift of Mrs. Joseph Drexel; other accessories were sent to us by Mrs. Gardiner, then President of the New York Society, and by Miss Belt, one of our own Dames, who acted as Chairman of the house committee and was most executive and efficient in that capacity. The rest of the old furniture of the bedroom was perfectly in keeping and the gift of Mrs. George Childs Drexel, while everything in the dressing room was of the Colonial period, from the quaint cheval glass and wash-stand to the spinning wheel and straight high-backed chairs.

So much for the Randolph Mansion.

Now that it has been abandoned and may very possibly suffer the slow decay that is the fate of most old houses which are not cared for, it is well here to record the beauty and the charm that soon will pass away.

The President and all the officers of the Chapter having been re-elected by the Board of Managers at the Annual Meeting on May 8th, 1915, it was with sincere sorrow and deep regret for the causes of my action that I decided in October, 1915, on resigning the office which I had held for twenty years as President

of Chapter II. This was not the first time that I had resigned my Presidency although it had not been mentioned by me, in my history of the first ten years of the proceedings of Chapter II. In 1904 I sent the following letter to Miss Balch, Secretary of Chapter II:

TO MISS ELISE WILLING BALCH,

Secretary Chapter II, The Colonial Dames of America.

Dear Madam:—

I write with mingled feelings of kindness and regret to offer my resignation as President of Chapter II, The Colonial Dames of America.

I am, of course, aware that according to our Constitution, the office of President, like all other offices, becomes vacant every year and is refilled at the Annual Meeting, but it is so customary to re-elect the same officers who have served during the previous years, that unless one should have expressed her readiness to retire, it might appear almost a discourtesy in the managers not to re-elect her.

I wish, in withdrawing, to thank the Board of Managers and the Chapter for the constantly kind and friendly manner in which my every wish or suggestion for the good of the Society has been met during the ten years that I have occupied the Presidential chair. I think I can truly say that officially I have never encountered the slightest jar or disagreement from any of its members and that if at times any personal difference of opinion has arisen, it has never been allowed to interfere with official relations. Indeed, nothing could be warmer than my feelings towards the officers and the managers and the members of this Society. They are those of pride and affection but I think that I should now give an opportunity to some younger woman to be elected in my place.

Believe me, with high regard,

Yours very sincerely,

HARRIET HARE MCCLELLAN, *President.*

Phila., April 16, 1904.

In 1904 I presided at the Annual Meeting at which my resignation was presented. I was in earnest in intending to resign, but on the vote of the Managers, confirmed by a persuasive

request from the whole Chapter that I would not retire from office, I consented to take up the burden again, which I carried for another ten years.

In 1915 I intended my resignation to be absolute and final. I was quite sure that it was best and I not only wrote to the Board but I sent the following form of notice to every member of the Chapter.

MRS. GEORGE McCLELLAN

President of the Colonial Dames of America Chapter II hereby informs the members of the Chapter that she has sent her resignation as President to the Board of Managers, requesting that steps may be taken at once to fill the vacancy thus created.

Mrs. McClellan is sensible of the compliment that the Society has paid to her in so many times re-electing her. She extends her kindly greeting to Chapter II, and wishes it all success and all good fortune in the future.

Having considered this history incomplete without a fitting description of the Randolph Mansion, I hereby bring it to a close with the record of my last action as President of Chapter II, The Colonial Dames of America.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRIET HARE McCLELLAN.

1116 Spruce Street,
October 1st, 1915.

APPENDIX I.

Paper read at the Annual Meeting, held on April 23rd, 1910, at the Randolph Mansion, by Mrs. George McClellan, President.

No doubt all the members of Chapter II have heard of the patriotic action of our parent society last autumn, when The Colonial Dames of America presented a beautiful monument to the City of New York, in commemoration of the great event of three hundred years before, when Henry Hudson made his important discovery of 1609; but it has been suggested to me by Miss Balch, your Secretary, and the Chairman of the Claims Committee, that it may not be unpleasing to you to hear of this interesting occasion from an eye witness.

Having received the very courteous invitation which the Board of the New York Society extended to the officers of all the five Chapters to be at the ceremony of presentation, I went to New York on the morning of Wednesday, September 29th, and made the best of my way towards the corner of the Riverside Drive and Seventy-second Street, this being the point at which the monument was to be placed.

It was one of those bright crisp autumn days of which we Americans have justly a right to be proud, as they are peculiarly distinctive of the beauty of our climate at that season of the year, and there is every reason to believe that it may have been on just such a day that Henry Hudson sailed up the beautiful river which has ever since borne his name. As I drove through Fifth Avenue, in the morning sunshine, there were crowds of people in all directions, and it would be difficult to describe the brilliancy and gaiety of the whole scene. Bands were playing, bells were ringing, the flags of three nations, those of England, Holland and America, were flying from all the tall buildings, hanging from windows or draped over columns and doorways on a level with the street as one passed along.

At one o'clock, which was the hour fixed for the ceremony, I found myself at the appointed place. It was just opposite to one side of Central Park, with the Riverside Drive between; a little green oasis in a desert of asphalt which had been roped in to keep off the crowd, and at one end of which arose a beauti-

fully wrought bronze column bearing a transparent globe of frosted glass, intended to protect an immensely powerful electric light, which it seems was much needed at this especial juncture of the streets, both for those passing along the Riverside Drive or Seventy-second Street, and as a beacon to vessels near the shore of the Hudson River on dark nights. From the granite base, which measures about ten feet in diameter, the triangular pedestal of the column is supported by the tails of three little dolphins, which curl upward, their big eyes gazing stupidly out upon the spectator. At the top of the pedestal are sea horses, and on each of the three sides a tablet, two of which bear inscriptions. On the third side is a bas relief, about three and a half feet in height. It represents a view of the Hudson River, and the figures of two Indians, one seated and one standing. Both have their backs turned, as they are facing the river, on which may be distinguished the lofty prow and full spread sails of the stout Dutch ship, the Half Moon, approaching through the morning mist, while a part of the tall rocky wall of the Palisades may be seen on the left. The naked figure of the savage on that side is represented standing with his arms stretched over his head and hands extended, the Indian's token of welcome to the invader of his solitude, who is drawing near in the first European built vessel his eyes have ever witnessed!

Above the three bronze tablets are the shields and coats of arms of England, Holland and the United States. The second tablet has inscribed upon it "To commemorate the discovery of the Hudson River by Henry Hudson, in the year 1609," while above the inscription is wrought the seal of the East India Company of Holland, through the auspices of which famous Company, as you know, Hudson made this voyage.

The words on the third panel, however, concern us the most nearly, as on it is inscribed "Presented to the City of New York by the Colonial Dames of America, 1909."

The green space in which the light shaft had been planted, as it were, was shaped like a very long triangle, or a pointed parallelogram, if such a thing exist, and camp stools had been placed in rows along the wider portion of the ground, on which a number of representative Colonial Dames were seated, from Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, while among the guests were included the President of the Society of the Cincinnati,

the President and representatives of the Colonial Dames of New York and representatives of the Daughters of The Cincinnati and the Daughters of the Revolution. Also the wife of the Minister from the Netherlands.

It had been hoped that Mr. Choate, the legal adviser of the Society, would represent it and make the presentation to the City, but as he was unable to do so, it was decided (to quote from the Report of Mrs. Davenport) that as in the presentation of the gates at Jamestown, this should be done by the Dames themselves. The Chairman of the Board of Aldermen, Mr. McGowan, was deputed by the Mayor to receive the memorial for the City. The ceremonies opened with the singing of the Dutchen Aria by a chorus led by Mr. Carl, Director of Music at the old First Presbyterian Church, accompanied by half a dozen instruments. This was followed by the anthem "God of our Fathers," set to harmony with these instruments, among which were included a kettle drum, a trombone and a harp. The Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Ira Davenport, who was also a member of the Board of the parent Society, then read a brief historical paper which through the courtesy of Mrs. Paul Dana and Miss Carmalt, has been sent on to us and which Mrs. Horace Hare has promised to read to you this afternoon. The paper was followed by a short address from Mrs. Dana herself, the First Vice-President, who represented the President on the work of the Committee, and who then turned to the Chairman of the Board of Aldermen, presenting, with great dignity and grace, the memorial, through him, to the city. This accomplished, to the sound of a fan fare of trumpets, Miss Carmalt pulled the cord which unveiled the colors from the memorial standard and the work of the Society stood revealed, while the orchestra played "America," and in a body the audience arose.

The President of the Board of Aldermen accepted the standard for the City in an appreciative little speech, and the ceremonies closed with the singing in Dutch of the Dutch National Anthem, the audience still standing.

Respectfully submitted by

HARRIET HARE MCCLELLAN

President,

*The Colonial Dames of America, Chapter II,
Philadelphia.*

APPENDIX II.

RESOLVED, That we, The Colonial Dames of America, Chapter II, have met together to express our appreciation of the very great loss which we have sustained in the recent death of Mrs. Clement B. Newbold.

Although still a young woman, she left behind her a deep impression in the hearts of all those with whom she was closely associated, owing to her generosity and magnanimity of nature.

As a wife and mother she belonged to a rare type of woman; one who, surrounded from her earliest youth with all the luxuries of life, which too often tend to enervate and render self-absorbed, yet retained her simple natural tastes, and lived up to her standard of what she believed was right.

The nobility of her character, felt in her life time, and proved on her heroic death bed, leads us to believe that in that little nursery left vacant by her death, the loss of such an influence can never be repaired.

APPENDIX III.

Extracts from Resolutions passed by Chapter II, The Colonial Dames of America, at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter, held May 8th, 1913, at the Randolph Mansion.

The Colonial Dames of America desire to express to their President, their affectionate and respectful sympathy in the great loss sustained by herself and the community in the death of Dr. McClellan, whose kindly and genial personality, artistic and cultivated taste, and large attainment in the line of his profession, won him so widespread an influence and so high a place in the esteem of all who knew him.

Dr. McClellan always manifested great interest in the Society of which his wife was so prominent a member, and doubtless assisted her by wise counsel in the guidance of its affairs. We wish to record our sense of her irreparable loss, and our earnest hope that solace may come to her from the memory and influence of a life so well spent and beneficent.

APPENDIX IV.

Report of the Secretary of Chapter II The Colonial Dames of America, at the Annual Meeting, May 8th, 1913

During the past year, besides keeping up our usual work of keeping in order the Randolph Mansion and helping to care for Christ Church Grave Yard, we redeemed a pledge made by the Board two years ago, of giving some financial assistance to Mr. Albert Cook Myers, who is editing the letters and papers of William Penn, a work of great interest to all good Pennsylvanians.

The door we promised to put up in the Washington Memorial Chapel, at Valley Forge, is all ready; we are looking forward to its dedication on May 21st, and Mr. Burk the Rector of the Chapel writes that the work on the beautiful Archway Bay in the Cloisters of the little Chapel is progressing very favorably.

Early in January, Mrs. George Mason Chichester gave a beautiful Colonial party. A number of Old Colonial dresses were worn by the fortunate owners and showed that our Grandmothers and Great-Grandmothers thoroughly understood the art of dress.

In March, Mrs. McClellan gave a pleasant Tea, to meet Madame La Marchesa Peruzzi de'Medici, one of our Dames who has her home in the old world, but who keeps in touch with her relations and friends on this side of the water.

A note of sadness attends our meeting today, for we miss from our midst one of our most active and valued members, Mrs. Francis Taylor Chambers, our hostess of the delightful Tea that followed our Annual Meeting last year. As Chairman of the Randolph House Committee she was most conscientious in fulfilling her duties, and as a member of our Board of Managers always ready to take her share of the work.

Besides, we feel deeply with our President in her hour of sorrow, and the more so, because we know we have lost a good friend in Dr. McClellan who took a great interest in all matters pertaining to the Chapter.

APPENDIX V:

At a special meeting of the Board of Managers of the Colonial Dames of America, Chapter II, called on June 30th, 1913, at the residence of the President, Mrs. McClellan, for the purpose of taking action on the death of the Secretary, Miss Elise Willing Balch, the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, That the Board is overwhelmed with the suddenness and magnitude of the calamity that has befallen it in the loss of so true and loyal a friend of the Society, so wise and able a counselor, and one so faithful and untiring in all that concerned the interests of the Chapter which she held most warmly at heart.

RESOLVED, That her cultivated mind, the wide range of her reading, and exact knowledge of the history of her country made her peculiarly fitted for the position as chairman of the Claims Committee which she held, as well as the office of Secretary.

RESOLVED, That her death comes not only as a personal grief to the members of the Board, who worked with her and learned to value her clear insight and excellent judgment, but to the whole Chapter, to which her loss is irreparable.

Be it further resolved, That these Resolutions be spread upon the Minutes of the Society, and a copy of them be sent to the members of the family, expressing the deep sympathy of the Board in their great affliction

S. E. GILPIN,
Assistant Secretary.

APPENDIX VI.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF FAIRMOUNT PARK,
Gentlemen:—

At a meeting of Chapter II The Colonial Dames of America, Philadelphia, held on May 8th, 1915, it was formally voted by the Chapter as it had previously been at a meeting of the Board of Managers to give up the privilege so kindly conferred upon us by you of using the Randolph Mansion as the headquarters of our Society in Philadelphia. We will remove our furniture on the 20th of May, if this should meet with your approval.

In writing to tell you of this decision, I wish to express the gratitude which I feel to the Commissioners of Fairmount Park for having granted to us for so many years the pleasurable use of this beautiful old historic house in East Fairmount Park, for the meetings of our Chapter.

We are deeply sensible of this kindness and it is only due to the need felt by our Chapter of a meeting place in town, that we have concluded to withdraw from the agreement made with your honourable body on January 3rd, 1901.

Believe me, with high regard,

Yours very truly,

HARRIET HARE McCLELLAN.

*President Chapter II The Colonial Dames of America,
Philadelphia.*